

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO



**HHSA**

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

## **CHILD WELFARE SERVICES**

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# Mission Statement

Through engagement and meaningful relationships, CWS supports families to enhance safety, permanency, and well-being for their children. Preserving the primary family and relationships is our priority. When this is not possible, CWS strives to ensure children will maintain and establish safe and nurturing relationships.

# CWS Top Priorities

1) Safely stabilize and preserve families;

and if that is not possible...

2) Safely care for children and reunify children to their families of origin;

and if reunification is not possible...

3) Safely support the development of permanency and lifelong relationships for children and youth.

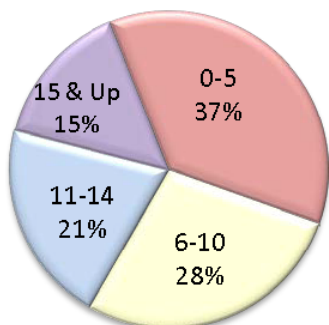
Our ultimate goal is to ensure that children and families are better off as a result of our involvement and move closer to goals of safety, permanency, and well-being.



# County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency Child Welfare Services



**Age of Children  
In Referrals**



## Children Under Age 18 Receiving Services as of July 1, 2012

**1,897 children were receiving services  
in their home.**

**3,333 children were in out-of-home  
care:**

- **53% Non-kin care**

- 23% foster family homes
- 10% group homes
- 10% guardian and court specified homes
- 8% foster family agency homes
- 2% shelter care

- **40% Kin care**

- **3% Other** (e.g. trial visits with parents, non-foster care placements)

- **4% Adoptions pending/finalized**

On July 1, 2012 there were 201 youth in extended foster care (EFC). These are youth ages 18 and older that have opted to remain non-minor dependents of the Juvenile Court.

464 children were placed in adoptive homes during FY11/12.

## Fiscal Year 2011/2012

**38,865 abuse/neglect reports were made to the Hotline which  
represents 71,659 children.**

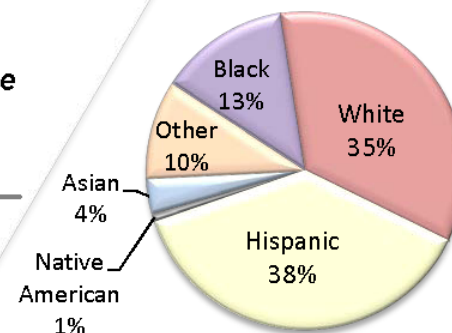
*(Children can be counted more than once if referred multiple times throughout the year)*

**22,183 of those reports, including 43,530 of those  
children were assigned for investigation.**

**2,892 children had a voluntary services  
case open at some point  
during the  
year.**

**1,961 new petitions were  
filed on behalf of  
children.**

**Ethnicity of Children  
In Referrals**

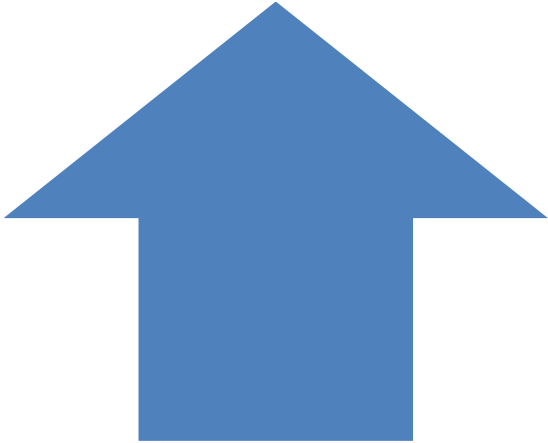


## Allegation Types

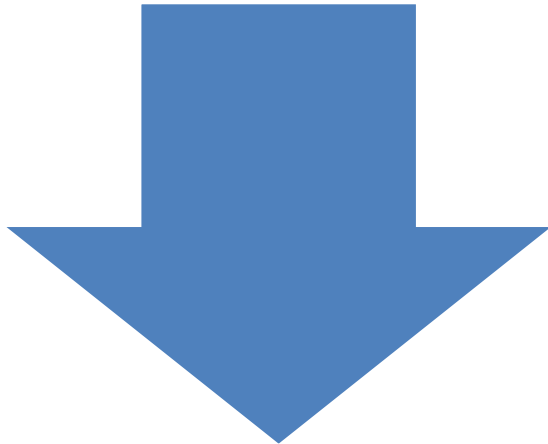
General Neglect	45%
Emotional Abuse	37%
Physical Abuse	31%
At Risk, Sibling Abused	20%
Sexual Abuse	18%
Caretaker Absence	4%
Severe Neglect	2%
Exploitation	0.1%

Children may have multiple allegations,  
therefore the percents will not equal 100%

# Significant Changes in Last 10 Years

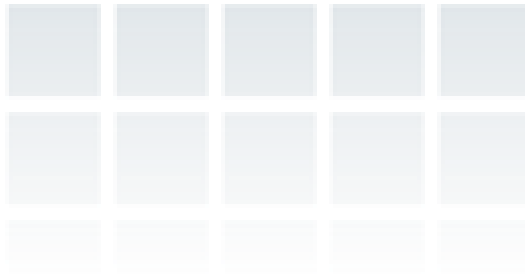
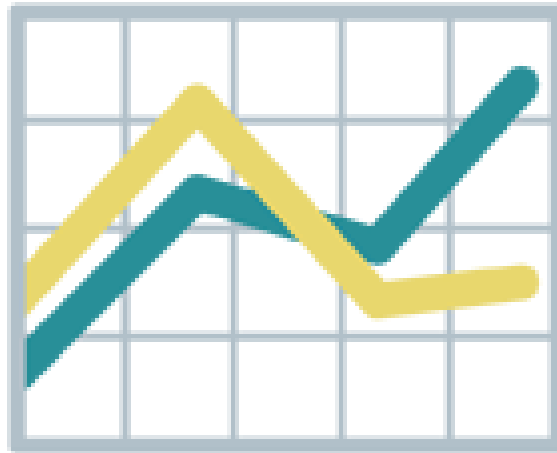


Increased focus on system improvement planning, practice improvements & outcomes



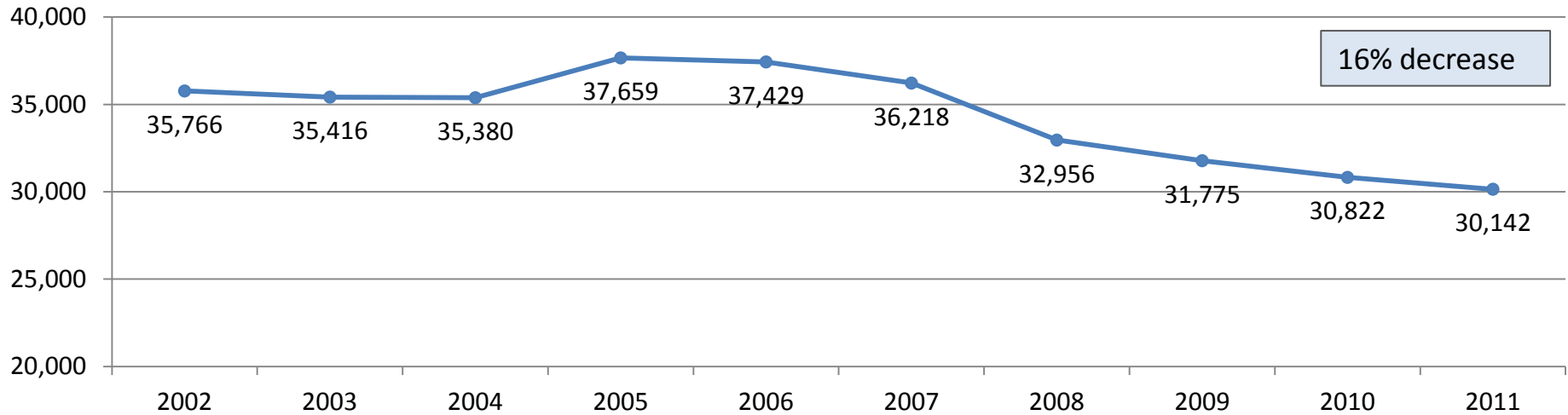
Fewer children in foster care - 20% drop nationally; over 46% drop in San Diego County.

# Data Trends

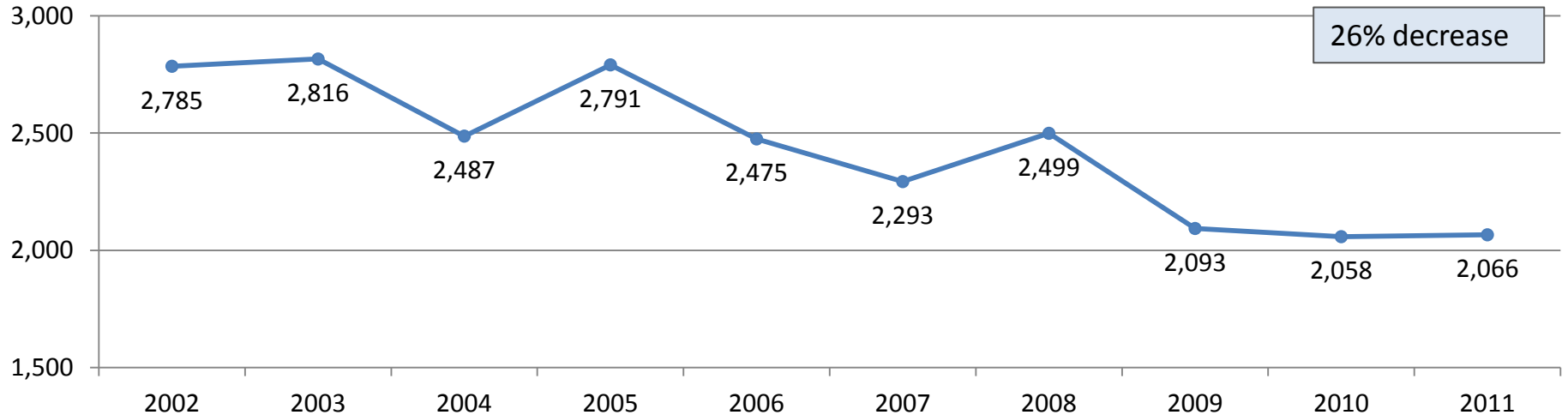


# Entries into Foster Care\*

## California



## San Diego

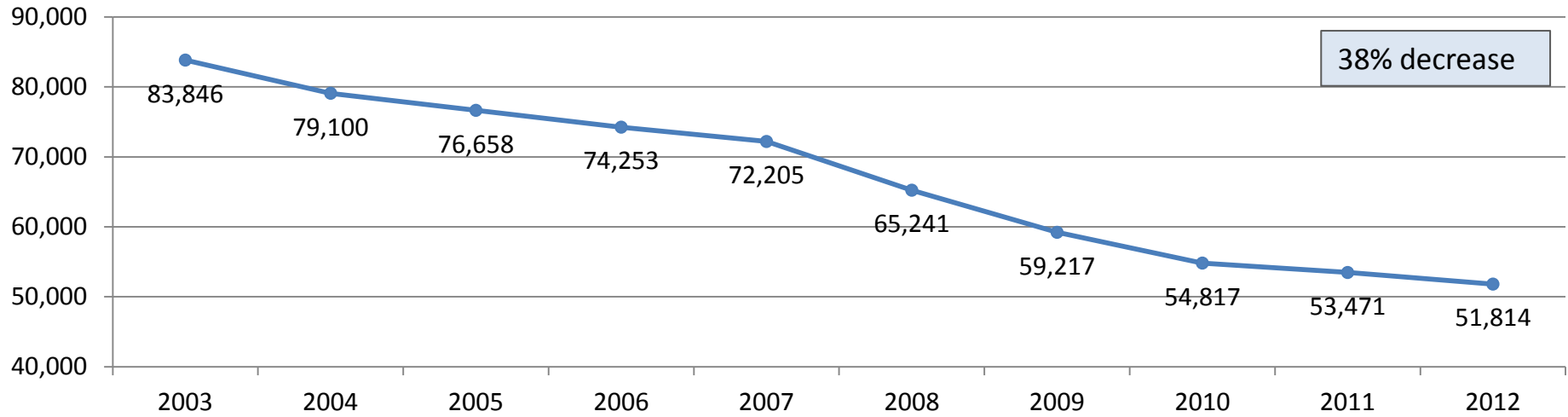


\*Children 0 to 17

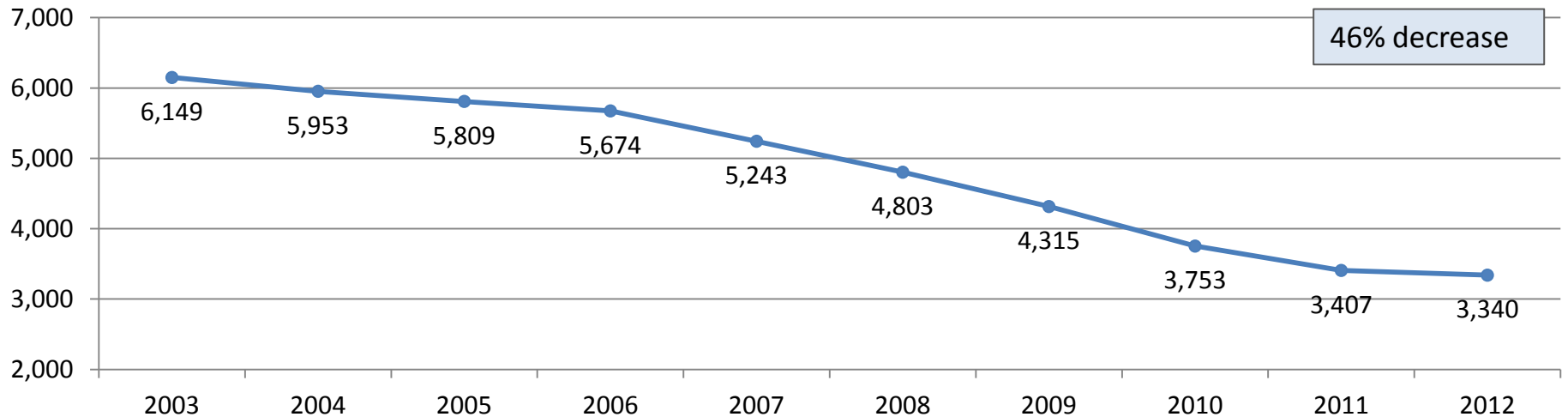
Data source: UC Berkeley ([http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb\\_childwelfare](http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare)); Retrieved 1/9/2013

# Children in Foster Care\*

## California



## San Diego



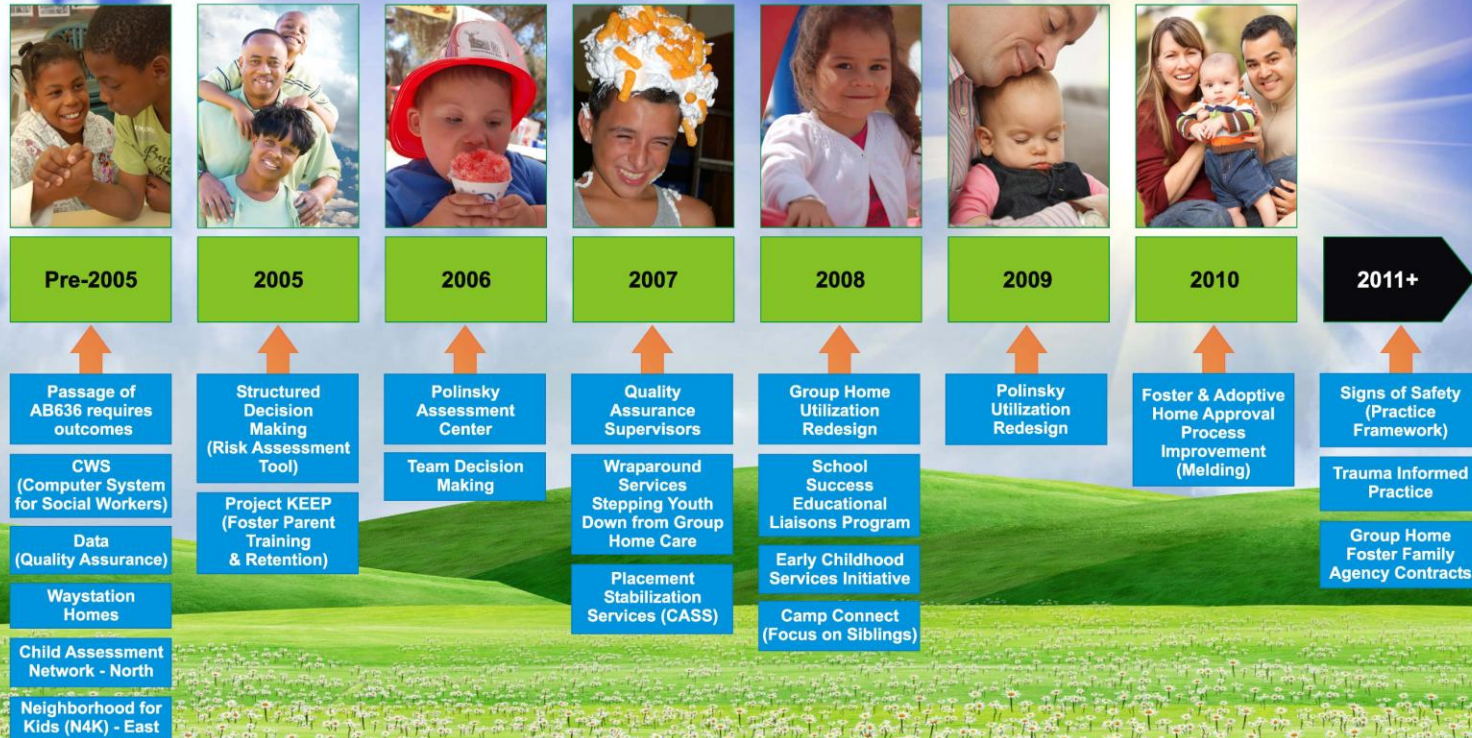
\*On July 1<sup>st</sup> of given year; children 0 to 17

Data source: UC Berkeley ([http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb\\_childwelfare](http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare)); Retrieved 1/9/2013



# 10 YEARS of CHILD WELFARE

## Timeline of Major Policy & Practice Changes



### Children, Ages 0 - 17, in Foster Care as of July 1

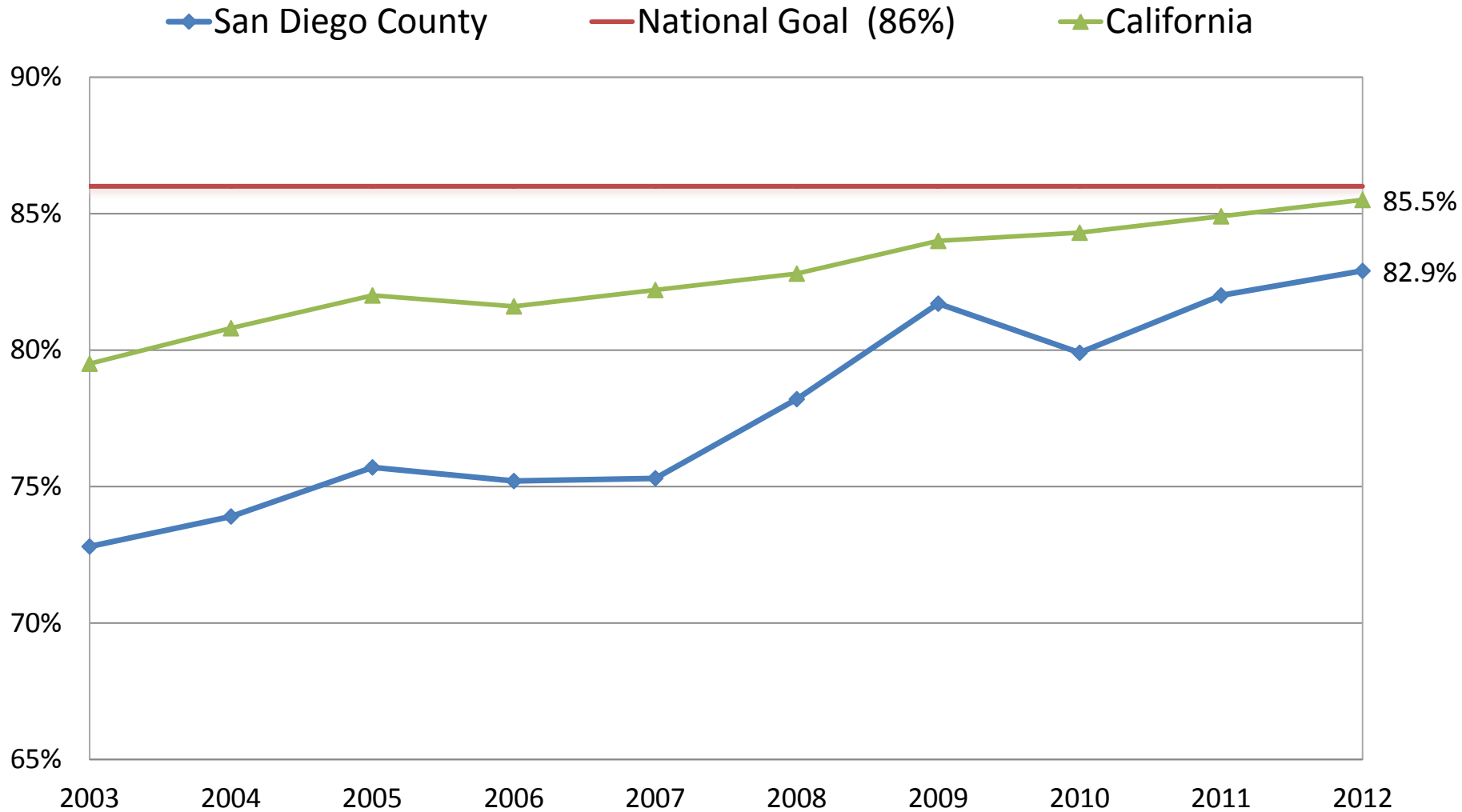
	5953	5809	5674	5243	4803	4315	3753	3407	3340
YEAR	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012

*Live Well, San Diego!*

# System Improvement Plan (SIP)

- ❖ Reunification
- ❖ Placement Stability
- ❖ Agency Collaboration

# San Diego County: C4.1--Placement Stability (8 Days To 12 Months In Care)



# Development of Evidence-Informed Child Welfare Practice

# Trauma-Informed Services

- Recognize and respond to the varying impact of traumatic stress on children and caregivers involved with the system
- Facilitate and support resiliency and recovery

# Trauma-Informed Services (cont)

- Family Engagement
- Critical Thinking
- Enhanced Safety



# Future Direction

- AB12 Law effective January 2012 (Extended Foster Care)
- Allows youth to receive services up to 21<sup>st</sup> birthday
- Focusing on Self-Sufficiency
  - Housing
  - Independent living skills
  - Income and budgeting
- Identify and develop permanent connections
- Increased responsibility for adult decision making